

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 766

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Leonard Harrell Padgett of Maynardville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened and deeply moved to learn of the death of Reverend Leonard Harrell Padgett; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Padgett was an outstanding individual who performed his religious and civic duties with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion, giving unselfishly of himself, his time, and his talents for the greater good of his family and friends, his faith, and the greater Maynardville community; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of East Tennessee, Leonard Padgett was a highly respected member of his community; and

WHEREAS, he bravely served his country in the United States Army in the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Padgett retired from the Knoxville Utilities Board and served with acumen and alacrity as Pastor of Copper Ridge Baptist Church in Powell and Elim Baptist Church in Knoxville, in which positions he earned the respect of his peers and congregation alike for the superior quality of his Christian service and the depth and sincerity of his faith; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Padgett's unparalleled legacy of courage, boundless energy, and religious devotion will forever be etched in the hearts and minds of his beloved congregation; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Padgett was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Padgett enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife, Loretta, who preceded him in death; he was also preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Alberta Padgett; his infant sister, Mary Jo Padgett; and his brothers, Jack Earl Padgett, David Padgett, and Jim Padgett; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Padgett is survived by his children and their spouses, Randy Padgett, Len Padgett and his wife, Patti, Wendell Padgett and his wife, Kay, Allen Padgett and his wife, Ava, Connie Archer and her husband, Floyd, and Cathy Cooper and her husband, Doug, he will be fondly remembered by his grandchildren, Joe, Sara, Ashley, Allison, Alex, April, Floyd Lynn, Kelly, Kristi, Heather, Amy, Kim, and Jason, and his great-grandchildren, Adam, Avery, Blake, Morgan, Brady, Alexis, Abby, Kadynce, and Hayston; and

WHEREAS, he will be sorely missed by his brother and sister-in-law, Don and Bobbie Padgett; his sisters, Joan Ellison and Rubie Dabney; his sisters-in-law, Judy Padgett, Bertie Campbell, and Betty Graves; and his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Coy and Doris Graves, Roy and Aileen Graves, Pearl and Junior Kitts, and Jean and Dewey Neely; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Padgett leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Padgett has left this world for a far better one, where he will reap the reward for his tireless lifelong efforts—the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the celebrated life of this exceptional Christian servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Leonard Harrell Padgett, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life and performing God's work with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deepest sympathy and offer our heartfelt condolences to the family of Reverend Padgett.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.